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**Abstract**

The invention, in accordance with one aspect, is an optical assembly including a substrate, a light emitting device mounted over a major surface of the substrate and having a back face, at least one channel formed in the substrate near the back face of the light emitting device, and at least one photodetector optically coupled to the light emitted from the back face. The channel includes at least one surface adapted to receive a portion of the back face light and reflect it away from the photodetector so that the photodetector receives primarily direct light from the back face.

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